

# TEC

# NEWS



Official Publication of  
THE  
ELONGATED  
COLLECTORS

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## THIS AND THAT

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT..

The membership elongateds are finally available. There is an interesting story connected with the group because it illustrates the problems involved in producing coins.

As your new president, I was unaware it was my responsibility to have the coins made. Sally did such a good job that I just took it for granted a little genie would magically appear and the coins would be available.

After I was reminded by Alice Penzes that members had paid dues and the coins were required, I contacted a number of rollers. Some were willing to help but the majority ignored my mail.

Fortunately, Adam Cool advertises in our TEC newsletter and I designed an owl which probably looked like a crossed-eyed pigeon. The genius converted my artwork into an excellent rendition of an owl.

Once the die was received, I had to remail it, this time to Santa Ana, California roller Claude Watt. Several weeks wait ensued because Claude was trying to obtain 1980 cents and they weren't easy to find. Finally the coins were available but it necessitated a late drive from my home to Claude's daughter's house about 25 miles away. It was night time, I was



unfamiliar with the area and found that a St. Bernard or a seeing eye dog would have helped.

The coins are in my possession and those who have paid their dues should receive one in this newsletter. If you haven't paid and intend to pay in the near future, Alice Penzes will mail coins directly to members as dues are received. If you've been overlooked, please contact Alice. In the meantime, please accept my apologies for the erratic handling of the 1980 TEC membership coin. Apparently only the owl is wise.

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Act II features Burton Levy, our esteemed vice-president. Normally vice-presidents bask in the glory of holding an office and let everyone do the work. Burton is a dyed-in-the-wool volunteer who accepted the task of converting elongated quarters into glamorous badges.

As of this date we have received 68 orders and only 60 quarters were rolled. My fault, of course, but I understood that only 40 coins were required and thought that 60 would be enough. A follow-up order is underway. The delay in the badges continues because Burton has to punch a hole in each quarter, purchase ribbon, pins and create a masterpiece for you.

Price of the badge, if you haven't



Message from the President..Cont'd.  
ordered one, is now \$3.50. Some of you may have paid slightly less; but after all, inflation is here and there isn't any reason why TEC shouldn't make an extra dime or so because the badges will be so beautiful that you will gladly pay for this work of art.

If there is any credit, please send a written smile to Adam Cool and Burton Levy for their efforts and Claude Watt deserves a mental handshake for rolling the coins.

Unfortunately, the quarters are not on 1980 issues..that date just wasn't available.

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Ginnie Aldridge, the gal who is proving to be a real winner as historian, demonstrates her enthusiasm for TEC by sponsoring six new members.

Our membership drive in general appears to be zipping along with the speed of a centipede with bunions. But Ginnie and a few dedicated members of TEC have taken the membership drive seriously. There will be a special bonus for the member who sponsors the most new collectors by our TEC meeting.

Incidentally, five members in one year merits a bonus elongated which I will be sending Ginnie in the near future.

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As for the elongated book, so help me, I have been doing work on it and some progress is actually being made. Once again I must ask for your patience. You can be sure I will be very happy to announce when the book will be going to the printer.

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In the last newsletter I asked dedicated members and/or rollers if they would assist TEC by donating 250 elongateds (not necessarily all alike) so that the coins could be distributed in each newsletter. I am delighted to say that the response was instant and we now have coins from Clifford Roth--that coin is in this issue. The July-Aug-Sept

release will include a coin from Irving Canter and our last newsletter of the year, Oct-Nov-Dec, has a Copper Charm release from a new roller and I am sure that all members will appreciate the free coins and equally important, those who donated them.

\* \* \*

AN ELONGATED SURPRISE  
via LEE MARTIN



Killing two birds with one stone is a sad cliché. I'd rather use the idea of feeding two birds with one assortment of goodies. In other words, I recently visited two rollers in a single day and had excellent cooperation from each. I am trying to make a television film about elongateds. Perhaps--and it's a big perhaps--I'll be able to show it during the TEC meeting.

Roller Claude Watt converted a jeweler's rolling mill to an elongated machine. The primary difference is that the jeweler's mills maintain permanent dies and the elongated machine must use different dies. Claude allowed me to photograph his machine in action and demonstrated how he feeds the coins and how a manual unit works.

I then visited roller Eric Goodwin who has an electric elongated machine. It's smoother, easy working and exactly like the type of unit formerly used by rollers Claude Thomas, Lido Coin Shop, Warren Bunge and the House of Elongateds. In addition, Eric specializes in the coins of Lloyd Wagaman and has practically a complete set of his issues. As the camera rolled, Eric discussed his collection and demonstrated his machine. It's all part of the tape.

If all goes well, this will be the first numismatic tape ever made via the new video systems. It's in full color and of course, sound. I hope to edit and have a half-hour film for the meeting.

\* \* \*

TV

Zebras are  
white animals  
with black stripes.



I REMEMBER WILL ROGERS  
Ruby Threlkeld C-202



Will Rogers was born on November 4, 1879 in Claremore, Oklahoma. His parents were Clem V. and Mary Rogers. Both were part Cherokee Indian. Will was the youngest of seven children and his full name was WILL PENN ADAIR ROGERS.

Will was an unforgettable person. There are doubts there will ever be another person like him. Gum-chewing, rope-twirling, grinning cowboy--he was known the world over for his humor.

He wrote the only syndicated column carried in the New York Times. His friends were presidents and kings. He made movies but his newspaper was most important to him. He said, "I joke about every prominent man of my time, but I never met a man I did not like." He tried to see the very best in everyone. It made no difference whether a person was Republican or Democrat, rich, poor, white or Indian.

Will belonged to everyone. He loved his family dearly but if he was not doing a picture, he was making a radio broadcast, or going to Washington to make a speech. His trademark was, "Well, all I know is what I read in the papers."

Will's last trip was with Wiley Post in his plane, the Willie Mae. His wife and friends tried to talk him out of going to Alaska but he had his heart set on it. He was killed on this trip. He was survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

In my collection is a beautiful elongated coin of Will Rogers. It has a rope border circling a good likeness of Will. His hat sits on the back of his head and his tie hangs loose. Engraved in the circle is, "1879 - 1935 Will Rogers - cowboy - philosopher." No date or initials can be identified on this coin.

Recently a beautiful postage stamp was issued to honor the 100th birthday of Will.

\* \* \*

#### THE CREATION OF AN ELONGATED

Chester M. Rogers

About two weeks before Christmas 1979, while watching the news broadcast, President Carter proclaimed December 18th as United Day. The reason for this he stated was to show the Iranian's that our citizens were united and wanted our hostages freed. On another broadcast when President Carter, with his daughter Amy, pushed the button to light up the large Christmas tree on the

White House Lawn, the President stated that it was different this year because there were 50 smaller Christmas trees there also but would not be lighted until all our hostages were freed.

So, combining these two current events, I came up with an idea for an elongated. Making a border of the 50 smaller Christmas trees, with the words "United Day December 18th, 1979" in the center. Near the border at the top it reads, "50 Christmas trees that will not be lighted" and above the border at the bottom are the words, "until our hostages are all freed."

Anyone wishing to obtain this elongated should please contact Chester M. Rogers, Box 553, Leachville, Arkansas 72438. (See Chester's ad for price.)

\* \* \*

#### TEC AND FRIENDSHIP

Irving R. Canter #753



I've had many experiences with affiliations such as the Boy Scouts, the Cub Scouts, Little League Baseball and Football, since both my children were boys, and I have met a great number of other participating parents. There were casual friendships made; but somehow after the boys grew up, I guess it all disappeared, like a wisp of smoke from a chimney. It seems to me that I'm a lucky fellow because I've been blessed with still another breed of friendship. I've come to know many fine people in TEC in the short time I've been a member.

Since I'm giving out verbal bouquets, I might as well mention a few who deserve praise and plaudits. My friend, Doug Fairbanks, Sr., who is always ready and willing to help his fellow TEC members, at great expense to himself personally distributes a most lengthy selection of Elongated Coins and other exnumia. I've found him to be most generous and understanding in my trading with him. He is located at 5937 Beadle Drive, Jamesville, N.Y. 13078. Another is Robert W. Callander who at his own expense, sent me a photocopy of the introduction of Dottie Dow's book. That seems like an act of friendship also. Sally and Al Kirka are among those who always are willing to give that little extra effort to help too,

Tec and Friendship..Cont'd.

in any situation.

Friends one and all, are those who give of their time and knowledge in behalf of the ELONGATED COIN CLUB. I personally want to go on record to thank all the officers of TEC for the job they are doing. They have my support and FRIENDSHIP.

I'm trying to create a complete collection of N.Y. PAN-AM Exposition (1901) elongated coins and I've been fortunate so far to have acquired many of the 38 listed varieties (Dow's Book). However, I'm still missing the following: NY PAE #3, #11a, #13, #13c, #15, #17a, #19, #20, #24 and #26. (Babbin #66).

If anyone has original copies of the above for sale, please write me and include asking prices. My address is Irving R. Canter, 2665 Homecrest Ave. 2K, Brooklyn, NY 11235.

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#### WATCHDOG OF TEC MONEY COMMENTS

Jack D. Huggins, Sr. Treasurer

I have always been impressed by man's creation of bridges, monuments, etc. Let us take St. Louis, Missouri. You may say, if you attended the ANA in 1979, who wants it, but to me..it's my home.

There are eight famous sites that I believe could be rolled upon a 1979 cent to form a series of elongated coins. They are: Spirit of St. Louis (Charles Lindbergh's plane), St. Louis Arch, Old Court House (site of famous Dread Scott case), King Louis IV Statue (known as Saint Louis), S. S. Admiral (cruise boat on the Mississippi River), Busch Memorial Stadium (home of professional football and baseball), Cobble Stone Wharf on the river front, Clydesdale eight team hitch.

Now I received as a Christmas gift this year, a large marble paper weight with all these pictured thereon, in a group beneath the arch. What a beautiful gift it was! Within a few days after placing it on my desk, I began to realize that I would like to place each site on the face of elongated coins. I have added a few sites, namely the Eads Bridge, the Municipal Opera State, and the St. Louis Art Museum located on Art Hill, site of the 1904 St. Louis Worlds Fair.

Now we could apply this to all cities,

especially your own home town. Each of us could have sites we love placed on elongateds. Then we could trade them among ourselves.

I have set up a numbering system. The coin would be designated as your initials, dash one, and so on. My own would be JDH-1. I thought of St. L, for St. Louis, likewise Chi, for Chicago, NY for New York. But let us lend our own individuality to it and use our own ideas. This is food for thought on these long winter days and nights. I enjoy watching sporting events, only Major league baseball and football. I have always collected memorabilia of the teams. I have a complete collection of mini caps and helmets, made in plastic, they were put out by ice cream companies. Also I have almost a complete collection of plastic dolls. Now my thought was to issue a series of elongateds with helmets on them. There again it's a trademark item and perhaps illegal to do so.

Many years ago I started collecting what is known as Beam bottles. I founded several clubs in the St. Louis area. One of these was the Greater St. Louis Area Beam and Specialities Club. Along with 16 other clubs throughout the United States, we met and we formed a national association. I attended many of the conventions and enjoyed the gatherings more than coin conventions as they were all fun and frolic. A coin dealer in California rolled a series of elongateds with Beam bottles on them. At the time they did not interest me as I had the bottle, and what could you reproduce that would be more eye-appealing than the original bottle itself? But we had the problem of space. After all, when you have an entire house full of whiskey bottles, and the taste of the contents is not your brand, what do you do? Well, you find yourself going out and looking for the brand you like. (I might say your taste buds can stomach.) But you soon run out of space. Now with elongateds, you need very little space. So now, I regret I collected the bottle instead of the elongateds.

The most appealing elongateds to my eyes are the ones with bridges on them or sites (as I have said before). I am saying this knowing quite well that the next elongated I see will be more appealing than my true love.

I am planning on creating an exhibit of elongateds with the sites I have seen and truly love. A great deal of planning goes into my exhibits and at times it takes several years before one is finally created.



Watchdog of TEC Money Comments..Cont'd.

So I hope that not only myself, but others will create a labor of love. That is, have your own personal elongateds for all of us to enjoy at the next coin show.

\* \* \*

GEORGE WASHINGTON NEVER SLEPT HERE  
Ruby Threlkeld - 202



George Washington never visited Laredo, Texas. But that never prevented the little town from having an annual celebration to honor our first President. This all started 76 years ago.

Laredo sits on the banks of the Rio Grande River, just across from Mexico. It chose the birthday of the President as a day to celebrate. Not only is he considered the "father of our country," but Washington also is remembered throughout Latin America as one of the first leaders of independence for a sovereign American state.

His name is enshrined, along with those of Hidalgo, Bolivar, and Juarez, in the hearts of all freedom-loving people of all the Americas.

The celebration is held annually on February 15-18. Events start with a youth parade and a carnival of fireworks on the riverfront. The following day the Mexican village is opened.

The Mexican village is a fun time of street dancing, band concerts and entertainment that includes Mariachi music. All kinds of food is served on this day from downtown St. Peters Plaza.

On Saturday leaders from both countries exchange greetings and renew bonds of friendship and cooperation. Later that day events will include a Grande International Parade, drill teams, carnival on the riverfront, Mexican village and the Noche Mexicana program.

On Sunday, the Mexican rodeo is held with teams coming from many towns. Competition is great as the Charros ride.

The Indian Princess Pocahontas is always a traditional personality at the events. In the beginning the celebration committee discovered that when the Colonies were making plans to free themselves from England, the Sons of Liberty would disguise themselves as Indians. George Washington was elected chief of this organization.

One thing most school children have learned about George Washington is this saying, "First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

The first president of the United States has not only been honored by Laredo, Texas but his likeness has been placed on many U.S. stamps, coins, medals, tokens, elongated coins and wooden money. In many collections of TEC members along with other famous Americans, you will find several different elongated coins with different borders and designs.

\* \* \*

A SOUVENIR FOR OUR HOMETOWN

Jack Wilcox - TEC #332

New Brunswick, N.J. celebrates its 300th anniversary this year. My wife, Peg, has been collecting postcard views of our hometown and also tokens and medals over the years and has managed to find many interesting items. Checking and learning no medal or token has been issued for the 1980 300th anniversary, I decided to design an elongated.

I recalled passing the blue marker denoting that Inians Ferry was the name for New Brunswick back in colonial times. It was named after the man who ran the ferry across the Raritan River. A little research led to my finding a small picture of the flatboat ferry. The idea for my design was found. Now I would have a new elongated for my ship theme as well.

Experimenting with letter placement, I chose the horizontal form. The elongated reads: 300th Anniversary-(top) New Brunswick, N.J.-(bottom)--1680-1980 (left) ferry boat-(center)- Inians Ferry-(right)-border is my usual stamp perforation one.

Bob Luchtman again was kind enough to do the artwork and die for me from my rough sketch. The ferry picture was very small but Bob managed to capture the scene. So far two hundred pennies (1978 date) have been rolled. More may be ordered in the future.

Peg and I contacted the Historical Society and we donated 100 coins to be used however they wished. We will sell the others at \$1.00 each if any members are interested. Our address is 310 Washington Place, North Brunswick, N.J. 08902. Stamp appreciated. With luck, this will help with the cost and I can, perhaps, think up another idea for an elongated.

Having this souvenir for our hometown and knowing it is something of our own, is a nice feeling. Perhaps this will also aid Peg in her search for local tokens and postcards in the future.

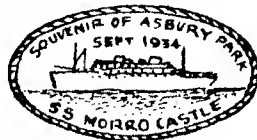
The flatboat ferry design is a must for

# A Souvenir for Our Hometown..Cont'd.

collectors of the ship theme. We need someone to come up with an iceboat design for I've yet to see this on an elongated.

A side note: I heard today that elongateds are being rolled now up at the Winter Olympics. Perhaps this will be mentioned in our TEC News. I hope we see an article on this from one of our members lucky enough to have attended Lake Placid. \* \* \*

THE S.S. MORRO CASTLE  
John G. Spadone



A tragedy at sea brought about the elongated coin "S.S. Morro Castle," a ship of the "Ward line," that routed between New York and Havana, Cuba during the 1930's.

The elongated is listed in Dottie Dow's Elongated Coin book as (New Jersey, Asbury Park), N.J. ap-1. The original elongateds would be rolled on 1934 uncirculated coins and earlier dates. The coin's description is as follows: "Souvenir of Asbury Park", across the top, centered below this, the date 1934, the image of the ship in center, moving left and "S.S. Morro Castle" across the bottom, with a roped style border. There also exists an unlisted variety, we could call it, N.J. ap 1a, in which a pier was added on the right side.

The nightmare ended with 134 lives lost in the S. S. Morro Castle fire-disaster, yet after 46 years, the mystery is still unsolved. The ship drifted near the shore at Asbury Park, New Jersey, after trying to tow it to New York. The burnt hulk drifted within 100 yards of the beach and instantly became a tourist attraction. The boardwalk concessionaires were idle since Labor Day and immediately took advantage of the opportunity. The "closed" signs came down and business boomed again. The roller was there squeezing out the pennies and I also came across one of these elongateds mounted on a burnt piece of wood from the ill-fated S. S. Morro Castle, which probably sold for more.

Information in this article came from the "Nightmare at Sea" by Brother C. Edwards and sources include contemporary issues of N.Y. Times and

"Fire at Sea"(1959) by Thomas Gallagher. Brother Edwards claims these were on-scene reports and not from court or investigative proceedings. Also one of Brother Edwards colleagues at the Christian Brothers Center at Manhattan College, N.Y. was personally familiar with many of the participants in the Morro Castle tragedy.

Captain Robert R. Wilmott became disturbed while the liner was enroute toward Havana because of a small suspicious fire and the discontented Second Radio Operator George Alagna. Alagna threatened retaliation against his employers because he was deceived by unkept promises to end an informal shipboard strike. Capt. Wilmott spoke of dismissing the Chief Radio Operator George Rogers when he got to N.Y. because he was sure that Chief Radio Operator got his position by trickery. Rogers had a profound knowledge of incendiary and explosive devices and probably dreaded being discovered.

On the return trip to N.Y., Capt. Wilmott was further irritated when he heard about the two bottles brought aboard at Havana. One bottle was acid and the other a foul-smelling liquid that Mr. Alagna could use to disrupt the return voyage by tossing a stink bomb in a crowded salon. Rogers insisted that he had thrown one bottle overboard, but what about the other bottle?

There was also a storm coming closer. The Capt. hoped that he could reach N.Y. with no more problems than a ship full of seasick vacationers. He never found out, because on Friday, September 7, 1934, after eating a slice of melon at supper, he doubled up in pain and died within the hour. The diagnosis was acute indigestion and heart failure, which many people doubted. The nightmare began with the tropical hurricane closing in, the Morro Castle passing into command of First Officer William F. Warms, a less confident leader, caught off-guard by sudden change, and who never had the chance to take control.

It all began shortly after 3 a.m. September 8, 1934, a small fire was discovered at 3:50 a.m.; a passenger called Steward Daniel Campbell's attention to **the** smell of smoke.



The S. S. Morro Castle..Cont'd.

At the same time, a night watchman reported the incident to the new Capt. Warms. The small fire was located in a crew locker, but when Campbell opened the door, he saw sheets of flames. The fire had already set in the floors and ceilings between decks and was impossible to put out. The inaccessibility of the fire, the speed at which it spread and its peculiar path (often downward) strongly hinted at a carefully planned arson.

The poorly drilled crew were ineffective firefighters and even the officers hardly knew what to do. Capt. Warms became flustered, giving confused and contradictory orders. Chief Engineer Eban S. Abbott panicked in the crisis and left the engine room in chaos. The bewildered passengers, sick from the storm or nightlong parties, received little help. Some fought the fire till the pumps lost power, others sought safety toward stern. Some frantically aroused sleeping relatives and friends, others tried swimming 2 miles to shore, through the stormy sea. Some reached the lifeboats and some were never launched. The least fortunate died in their cabins, forgotten in the confusion.

Tragedy's torch was whimsical, unpredictable. Doris Wacker, 18, struggled to keep her parents afloat, but in the end, lost her asthma-racked father. Mary Lione and 4 year old Robert survived, her husband and 8 year old Raymond perished. Gladys and Ethel Knight, both expert swimmers, towed two small boys to shore. When they got there, one of them was dead. Nothing stopped George Rogers in reaching the radio room soon after the fire was discovered, but he experienced great difficulty in contacting the bridge for authorization to send S.O.S. His persistence, despite equipment failures, smoke, suffocating heat, finally got the distress signal out to the Coast Guard in New Jersey and to Andrea S. Luckenback, Monarch of Bermuda and City of Savannah at sea. The vessels reached the scene promptly and their

lifeboats valiantly battled the pounding sea in the desperate search for survivors. The fishing boat "Paramount", equally heroic, quickly reached the distressed liner and collected as many survivors as she could and left them with the Luckenback and continued the rescue work until the fuel ran out. Great credit is due to the Governor A. Harry Moore, who directed lifeboats to struggling swimmers from a New Jersey National Guard Aircraft.

From Capt. Warms and Chief Engineer Abbott the law extracted token retribution. In 1936 both were convicted for their failure in line of duty, but ironically were later pardoned. It was determined that Capt. Wilmott, and not Capt. Warms or Engineer Abbott failed to drill the crew in emergency procedures. The Ward Line did not encourage its captains to pester the passengers with fire drill. The loyal Capt. Wilmott just followed company orders.

The most incredible aftermath was provided by the "chief" hero George Rogers. His subsequent career included the attempted murder of Bayonne N. J. Police Lieutenant Vincent Doyle with a bomb rigged like a fishtank heater. Its explosion maimed Doyle for life. In 1942 Rogers won parole in order to enlist as an armed forces radio operator. None of the services would accept him. However, his lurid career ended with murders of 83 year old William Hummel and his daughter. Rogers died in prison in 1958.

Thus the story ends and there were many contributing causes to the disaster: unprepared crew, Wilmott's death, sudden burden thrust on Capt. Warms, worst storm of the season. Yet afterthought gives strong support to the theory that the fire was set by George Rogers. He certainly had the motive if he knew Wilmott planned to dismiss him in New York. He undoubtedly possessed the expertise to start a fast-spreading fire. It's perfectly possible that he poisoned Capt. Wilmott, then tried to burn all the clues to the crime. After all, no autopsy could be performed on the captain's incinerated



The S. S. Morro Castle..Cont'd.

remains. Rogers subsequent career proved him morally and technically capable of brutal homicide. Was he the detonator of this disaster? We will never know for certain, but we are left with that puzzle and 134 dead.

So this is the story of the Morro Castle elongated. In those days this was considered a great disaster which involved many people, relatives and friends of all the passengers dead and alive. Many sightseers traveled from nearby states to see the burned hulk, evidence of a great disaster. Lives, property, money, etc. were not considered in this selfish and thoughtless act which showed that one or two individuals were responsible for a tragedy. Innocent people on a vacation lost their lives due to neglect. - - -

My afterthoughts: nothing stopped Chief Radio Operator Rogers from reaching the radio room after the fire was discovered. Was this self-preservation? Did he know about the fire? Why was he up at that time? Had he realized the seriousness of the situation? Was he looking to be rescued? He experienced great difficulty contacting the bridge for authorization to send S.O.S. Does one need authorization to send S.O.S. in time of disaster? He could save himself, if he knew what was going on at all times, and he did survive! The answers to all these questions is only known to him and his Maker.

Other facts: There were a total of 548 people - 414 survivors - 134 dead. The Morro Castle was built in 1930 and was a steel-hulled electrically-powered ship with every safety device available. The ship had modern fireproofing but no general alarm was sounded (maybe they thought that they could control the fire.) Another fact was that the rough seas caused the tow line to break and the ship drifted to shore. It was finally towed to Baltimore in March 1935 and scrapped.

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## Dean of S.F.'s 'cent-mashers'

Whitey Howle, dean of the "penny mashers" at San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf, was the subject of a recent profile by Steve Rubenstein, in the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Howle charges 10 cents more than his three competitors to produce his elongated cent souvenirs, which sell for 35 cents each.

In Rubenstein's words, he "has been at Fisherman's

Wharf longer than the Alcatraz telescope. He began elongating cents there in the 1930s, and later opened his own souvenir stand. Then, for 30 years, Howle sold pet turtles on the Wharf, until the federal government decided they carried disease in 1975, and put him out of business."

An elongated coin, even at 35 cents, is the cheapest souvenir that can be purchased on the wharf, Howle said. "Any other souvenir is going to cost you at least a dollar. And they all come from Japan," he added.

## CLICKITY CLACK

While the rails used in American's railroads are manufactured in lengths varying from thirty feet to a quarter mile, the most common rail length on modern American tracks is a standard 39 feet. When riding in a train along a standard track, the number of rail clicks you hear in about 27 seconds (26.6 to be exact) is the speed of the train in miles per hour.

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# 1968 THE YEAR OF THE MONKEY 1980

Chester Rogers



Monkey years endow the world with a crop of acutely intelligent maneuverers. Give a Monkey person a problem to solve and within minutes the wheels spring into action. Self-sacrificing and somewhat long suffering as well, the Monkey must be shown much love and affection as he doubts the basic good of others. Elizabeth Taylor, so well known for her ability to encourage and stand by Richard Burton (OX, 1925), was born in the Monkey year 1932. At their best, Monkeys are agile and wily thinkers and carry out schemes. At their worst, they are tempted by dishonesty and are able to cleverly dupe the most suspicious of souls. Monkeys do not by nature settle down to marriage and family. In fact, one might say Monkeys are inveterate children. The dashing Dragon can keep the Monkey mind occupied for many years. The Rat is amused and fascinated by the Monkey, and Monkey partners can count on the adoring Rat to be faithful. Monkeys are infatuated with Tigers, and such a match might work, provided the Monkey can accept the Tiger's long absences from home. Monkeys are so adaptable they "get on" with almost any sign. Yet Oxen, Dogs and Horses are not the wisest choices, as their nature generally conflict with the Monkey's taste for constant merriment. The elongated "The Year of the Monkey" is 75¢ plus postage, unless you are on my approval list. (See ad for Chester in this issue.)

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## THE JOY OF FINDING ELONGATED COINS

Abe Gefter



I visited the Miami Beach International Mid-winter Coin Convention held January 3rd to 6th at the Deauville Hotel.

There were 200 dealers from many states in the U.S. and foreign countries including a lonely dealer from Israel, Mr. Abraham Nachmany--a good friend of mine--who specializes in Israel coins and medals, whom I meet in Israel on every trip (4) that I take.

More than 2,500 collectors registered for the show and the dealers were very busy

buying and selling gold and silver coins (the show coincided with a very high silver and gold market).

While browsing around the dealer tables, I came upon a display by the "Holbrook Arms Museum", a great collection of various daggers and other small arms and insignia patches.

I had in my collection for a long time a Lincoln penny elongated depicting the Building of the "Holbrook Arms Museum" and I took it along with me to Miami Beach considering to visit the museum while there.

I was pleasantly surprised to find the display of the museum and I stopped to look it over, I was even more surprised to find in one of the show cases a set of elongated coins of the museum consisting of a half dollar, quarter dollar, dime, nickel and a penny, all marked 1975--my own penny is a 1976--I quickly bought the set for my collection.

I introduced myself to the man behind the display by showing him my TEC membership card. He in turn introduced himself as Col. Ralph Holbrook, founder of the Arms Museum--the title "Colonel" explains why an Arms Museum--and his partner, Mr. Bill Tucker.

While being in Miami Beach, I wrote to my good friend, John G. Spadone, with whom I correspond from time to time but never had a chance to meet personally.

John was very surprised to read that I was in Miami Beach and was glad that I wrote; however, not having my telephone number, he sent his and asked that I call him.

I did and he told me he just got out from the hospital where he had bladder surgery. Since he lives in N.W. Miami (some distance from Miami Beach) we were unable to get together. So I wished him a quick recovery.

Yes, TEC members, it is really a joy to find elongated coins in a display where you least expect to find them. Mr. Martin was quite right to say in the last issue of TEC News, "Perhaps TEC may have an additional meaning..The Educated Collector."

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## NUMISMATICS & KEWPIES

Marie Trinny

The first Kewpie elongated coin made was in the year of 1977, with the "Kick-Off-Koin", showing a Kewpie doll in a kicking pose. This is the

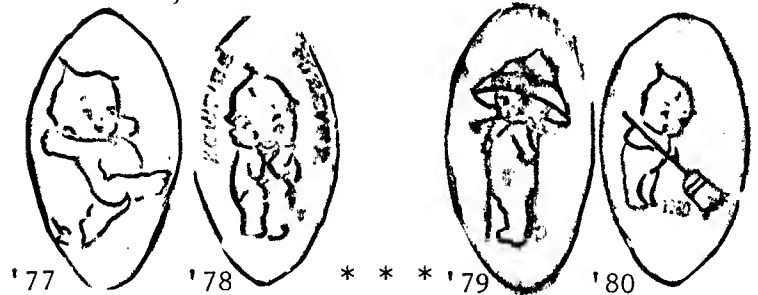
## Numismatics and Kewpies..Cont'd.

first known Kewpie doll, produced on a U.S. coin, or any other elongated coin. Two hundred were produced on the 1977 cents and a few clad and silver dimes also were produced with the "Kick-Off" motif. Then in 1978, the picture of the "Thinker"--one of the more familiar poses of the Kewpie, in a sitting position was featured. For 1979, the "Farmer" was chosen and was produced, again, by R. W. Luchtman, of Steamboat, Nevada, who made the ordered elongated coins for Mrs. Marie F. Trinny of Yountville, California. The "Farmer" is a Kewpie standing, holding a rake, wearing a large hat, which happens to be the emblem of the Iowa Rose O'Neill Association. The new coin, for this year of 1980, is the "Sweeper", made on all Wheat cents, clad and silver dimes. The "Sweeper" is the theme of the KEWPIESTA 1980, which will be held in April, in Branson, Missouri. For the past eleven years, a KEWPIESTA was held, and Kewpie doll collectors from the 50 states and Canada come to attend (which is much like the coin conventions, only substituting dolls for coins).

The creator of the Kewpie was Rose O'Neill, who died in 1944 at the age of 69. She had made many drawings that appeared in magazines and newspapers and from the drawings, dolls were designed and made. The first Kewpie doll was produced in bisque, in Germany, in 1912. Since then they have been made in celluloid, composition, wood fibre, plaster, or of vinyl.

The Kewpie Koins are produced on U.S. cents, clad and silver dimes. Just a few silver dimes were made and most have been sold. All cents to date have been made on the year of issue, except the 1980 cent in which only wheat cents were used, beside the silver and clad dimes. Some of the cents and clad dimes have been holed, so they can be used as a charm or other jewelry, if desired. The cents sell for a dollar each, while the clad dimes (none left of 1977) (and only 9 for 1978) sell for a dollar and a half. Silver dimes sell for \$3.00 and

there are only ten left each of 1979 and 1980. A stamped, self-addressed envelope is requested with each order. --Box 2625, Yountville, CA 94599



## NOTE FROM HISTORIAN

Ginnie Aldridge 515 Pinehurst Ave.,  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834

Thanks to Elmer Anderson for two elongateds and one PNC donated to TEC Archives...John Spadone for articles...Chester Rogers, Abe Geffer, and Irving Canter for offering their assistance in the near future. CLEAN OUT YOUR FILES and keep me busy.

\* \* \*

## JAMESTOWN, VIRGINIA

Ginnie Aldridge TEC #222  
Colonial Heights, VA



On May 13, 1607, three small ships completed a voyage across the Atlantic Ocean which began several months before from England. Sir Walter Raleigh sent these people on their journey to establish the first permanent English settlement in the New World. Little did he know (or the passengers) of the perils facing the adventurers. They were constantly threatened by danger from unfriendly Indians, sickness and hunger. Captain John Smith assumed leadership of the inexperienced people and James Towne (Jamestown) was founded.

The settlement eventually consisted of eighteen buildings which included homes, church, storehouse and guardhouse. The enterprising settlers constructed the buildings of wattle and daub (a mixture of twigs and mud) and part timber with thatch-roofs. After two and a half years, Captain Smith returned to England and Lord Delaware arrived. The newly appointed Governor came with men and supplies and the settlement began to thrive. It became the social, political and economic center of the



Jamestown, Virginia...Cont'd.

Colony.

The first brick church built in 1639 was preceded by an earlier wooden church constructed in 1619. It was in this wooden church on July 1619 where the first legislative assembly met and was known as the House of Burgesses. Jamestown was the Capital of Virginia from 1607 until 1699 at which time Williamsburg served as the Capital for the next eighty years.

In 1676, Nathaniel Bacon was the leader in a revolt against Governor Berkeley. The uprising is known as Bacon's Rebellion. His men burned the town because it was believed to be the "stronghold of oppression". Although Jamestown was partially rebuilt, the town never quite recovered. Eventually the town ceased to exist but in 1893, the first organized effort was made to restore it.

In 1907, an Exposition was held at Jamestown to commemorate the 300th year of the beginning of our Nation. In 1957, a 350th anniversary of the birth of Virginia was celebrated and it was then that full scale reproductions of the Susan Constant, the Godspeed and the Discovery were presented to Jamestown. As one views the three tiny ships, it seems a miracle that the originals managed to cross the ocean loaded with supplies and 104 settlers. I was at the 1957 Jamestown Festival but do not recall seeing any rollers of elongateds. In the meantime, we have those from 1907 because some enterprising roller recorded the event.

What prompted the preceding bit of history on Jamestown was the purchase of an elongated coin last year. It has been authenticated as an unlisted and here is a brief description of it: Church Bldg/ cross on cupola on roof/tree branches hanging over roof on left side/Jamestown Expo/1907 on right side/St. Paul's Episcopal Church at bottom/rolled edge.

NOTE: In my research for this article, I came across a book with a chapter on famous churches in Virginia. I was puzzled by the fact that all references to the church in Jamestown refer to "Jamestown Church". Then I saw a picture of St. Paul's in Norfolk which still has British cannon balls embedded in its walls and it seems to me, was the model for the die of the coin I have. This is pure speculation, but since

the roller already had a die made of the true condition of Jamestown Church known as VIR-JTE 4 Church Ruins, he gave us one with a whole church building on it. I believe I mentioned he was an enterprising man.

\* \* \*



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#### RATES FOR ADS IN TEC NEWS

Camera-ready - Full page ad \$15.00  
Half page ad \$10.00  
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Editor setup - Full page ad \$20.00  
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- - -

While watching television the other night, Channel Seven had a Special on, showing the town of Lake Placid, N.Y. The major part of the show was an introduction of the various places of business, the theater and the throngs jamming the main street of the boom town, which has been thrust into the limelight of the world. The word "Olympics" has taken on a most significant importance. Suddenly, on the scene popped a man and his strange looking machine, doing nothing more than rolling pennies with the Lake Placid Winter Olympic theme. The roller did not identify himself, but did make the claim that he was dispensing a moderately priced souvenir, for the price of fifty cents. Probably the most inexpensive item selling at the site of the 1980 Winter Olympics.

I know that ELMER ANDERSON of THE PONTIAC PRESS has an elongated coin commemorating the 1980 Winter Olympics, being held at Lake Placid, N.Y. I wonder if this could be the same one?

Our hobby now has reached into the homes of millions of television viewers and has given the ELONGATED COIN an excellent bit of free advertising. Perhaps it might even persuade some people to join TEC. Since our President and I both think it's a good idea to add to our membership rolls, maybe this might!

Can anyone of our TEC News readers shed any light on this question, "Who was the roller seen on a channel seven (East Coast) news special on the night of February 19, 1980? I for one would be pleased to have any particulars concerning "The Mystery Roller."

EDITOR'S NOTE: IN ANSWER TO THE ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING NEWS ARTICLE SHOULD EXPLAIN AND ANSWER ANY QUESTION CONCERNING THE LAKE PLACID ELONGATED.

# Everyone In Lake Placid Has A Gimmick For Surviving Olympics



BY MILTON RICHMAN  
UPI Sports Editor

LAKE PLACID, N.Y. (UPI) — Everybody in this snow-blanketed hamlet has a gimmick for getting him through the Winter Olympics in the kind of style to which he'd love to become accustomed, and although such opportunistic devices frequently revolve around taking tourists, in the most literal sense, that wasn't the case with these two young men from beautiful downtown Niagara Falls.

They came to compete in the toughest uphiller of them all, the daily money market.

"Here ya are," barked bespectacled Jim Zetes, 29, in a narrow arcade right off Main Street where he and curly-haired 25-year-old Danny Mancuso had planted their machine and set up shop. "This is the only place where you can turn your pennies into Olympic souvenirs."

Their charge is one dollar for two pennies and the customers have to supply the pennies as well as the dollar purchase price.

Zetes and Mancuso came to Lake Placid two weeks ago lugging the machine they bought last year in Hawaii for \$8,000. Mancuso calls it, quite aptly, "a hustling money-maker."

The machine is made up of three gears capable of exerting 3,000 pounds of pressure. All it does is flatten out pennies to about an inch-and-a-half and stamp them with a hand-made imprint which for this particular event depicts a figure of a skier and the words: "Lake Placid — Home of the Winter Olympics."

So thin are the pennies pressed, however, that shortly after Zetes and Mancuso stamp what they do on them, the words and the skier's likeness both rub off, making them barely recognizable. None of the local customers are told about this beforehand.

"Look at it this way," Mancuso laughingly explained. "We're the only people in the country who can stretch a penny these days. Even President Carter can't stretch it like we can."

Zetes and Mancuso also use their machine to accommodate tourists in Niagara Falls and Indianapolis for the Indy 500.

"We could do \$50,000 in four weeks," said Zetes. "That's if business goes the way we expect it to. If it doesn't, we might wind up with no more than, say, \$20,000."

In the same arcade where Zetes and Mancuso are turning out their copper souvenirs, a variety of other businesses are in operation, including a store selling the inevitable skiwear and warmup suits, a gift shop, a bakery selling Austrian strudel and a barber shop for both men and women, which boasts its cutters come from New York City.

Sean Ayers, a lanky 18-year-old from Burlington, Vt., who works as a desk clerk and relief night auditor at one of the local motels, was in the arcade.

"I like Lake Placid," he said. "I know a lot of places have raised their prices but this is the only opportunity the people here have to make any

money."

Eleanor Perkins, a local widow in her 50s who came into the arcade with her niece, agreed.

"You have to remember this is normally a terribly depressed area economically," she explained. "I'm originally from Bloomfield, N.J., and came here for the first time on a weekend 20 years ago. I loved it so much I settled here."

"Some people from out of town complain about the way prices have been raised here during the Olympics but you have to remember this: back home in New Jersey, if you call a plumber to fix something, he gets \$18 an hour the minute he steps in the door. Here he gets maybe three-four dollars an hour. The local people can't afford much more. They make only four or five thousand dollars a year, on the average."

Perkins said she's enjoying the excitement of the Olympics even though she knows she won't get to see many of the events.

"People write me and tell me how lucky I am to be living right where the Olympics are being held," she laughed.





## TEC NEWS COIN RECIPIENTS

The following individuals wrote an article(s) for the TEC newsletter, Jan-Feb-Mar 1980 issue. A special coin from Lee Martin's remaining House of Elongateds collection was sent to them.

Those who write articles for this newsletter will receive a variety from Lee Martin as thanks for contributing. Two or more stories merits an elongated dime.

Why not write an article for our next newsletter and send it as soon as possible? We are very grateful for your past cooperation but would like to encourage more members to submit articles to TEC.

#73-Merry Christmas from New Jersey  
1979--eighth issue - Jack Wilcox  
#332

#74-Pope John Paul II Visit - Irving  
R. Canter #753

#75-The Elongated Coin - Burton Neal  
Levy #499

#76-Niagara Falls, NY - Irving Canter  
#753

#77-Rolling Statue of Liberty Coins -  
Abe Gefter #121

#78-The Biographical Elongated is  
Beginner's New Interest - Lee  
Richards #786

#79-The Verrazano-Narrows Bridge -  
Irving Canter #753

#80-Prize-Winning Exhibit - Jack D.  
Huggins Sr. #745

#81-No Elongated Secret - "Doug"  
Fairbanks, Sr. #623

#82-The Mammoth Ferris Wheel -  
John G. Spadone #785

#83-Random Thoughts - Ginnie Aldridge  
#222

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS  
THE MIDDLE OF JUNE.

\* \* \*

## Coining a Little Happiness

Taking his daily stroll, an old but energetic gentleman dropped a half-dollar on the sidewalk. A passerby retrieved it and hurried up to the man to return it.

"Oh, I didn't lose it," the old gentleman said. "I always drop a coin when I take my daily walk."

"But why?" asked the passerby.

"I'll let you in on a little secret," the old gentleman smiled. "I like to think that the person who finds it will be happy for the rest of the day."

— Arthur Lacey

## NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!

#796 - William A. Williges, Box 445,  
Wheatland, CA 95692 - Sponsored by  
Ginnie Aldridge #222

#797 - Gerald Carsman, Box 622, Fair Oaks,  
CA 95628 - Sponsored by Ginnie  
Aldridge #222

#798 - Gerald Perry, 1105 Terrace Avenue,  
Hopewell, VA 23860 - Sponsored by  
Ginnie Aldridge #222

#799 - Arthur L. Aldridge (Bubba), 511  
Battery Place, Colonial Heights,  
VA 23834 - Sponsored by Ginnie  
Aldridge #222

#800 - A. L. Johnston, 1450 Lincoln Ave.,  
Apt 2, Burlingame, CA 94010 -  
Sponsored by Alice Penzes #5

#801 - Kevin Richards, 1070 7th Ave SE,  
Apt 5, Le Mars, Iowa 51031 - Sponsored  
by Lee Richards #786

#802A - (associate member) Karla Galindo,  
Box 12217, San Antonio, TX 78212

#803 - Tom Hitt, Box 970, Defiance, OH  
43512 - Sponsored by Ginnie Aldridge  
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\* \* \*

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## THE PRICE IS RIGHT!

One of the most dedicated collectors in our hobby, Elmer Anderson of Pontiac Press, has an extensive list of available material and also a large group of philatelic-numismatic covers with stretched coins. He will send a list FREE to any member who includes a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Write Pontiac Press, 35 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island 02886.

\* \* \*



JOHN SPADONE

I am happy to report that John Spadone, veteran elongated numismatist, has been making some excellent suggestions and from time to time, fillers used in this newsletter can be credited to him.

In addition, he is cooperating extensively with Lee Martin in the production of the book by furnishing line art of some unlisted.

John has a new issue produced with the help of Gus Meccarello and rolled by Bob Luchtman. Mintage is 1,000. The elongateds are available from John Spadone, 4872 NW 171st Terrace, Miami, Florida 33055. Price per cent is 75¢. The coin commemorates the Italian-American contribution to American society. Everyone should cherish their heritage and this coin stresses the contribution of one of our finest ethnic groups.

\* \* \*

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS...

Marvin A. Burnette #565  
1214 Danville Dr., St. Louis, MO 63137

Harold Butner #575  
1913 Fairview Ct., Sedalia, MO 65301

R. W. Callander #307  
409 Hickory Lane, Nappanee, IN 46550

Abe Geftner #121  
340 W 28th St., New York, NY 10001

Adam Kloczek #61  
1172 Chambers #4, Eugene, OR 97402

Burton Neal Levy #499  
9345 Dee Rd, Des Plaines, IL 60016

Fredric Mantei #545  
7752 78th St, Glendale, NY 11385

DECEASED - Helen Olenicki #288  
572 Linden Ave, Elmhurst, IL 60126

\* \* \*

## THE CIMETER GROUP

We just received completed membership form and check from Vance Fowler, president of the Cimeter Group. There is so much to say about this individual that some of it must be held over until a following newsletter.

Vance manufactures highly-professional elongating machines, including an automatic. His chrome machines sell for \$5,450 and are manual. One with both manual and electronic drive is \$6,750. The machines weigh about 270 lbs, have quick-change die segments, needle bearings and a lot of attractive glitter. He delivers within 90 days with two engraved dies. The drive system is visible from the exterior and coins are produced within eight seconds.

Vance uses an automatic that accepts 35 cents and one cent to be elongated.

He also produces miniature frames, each one displaying a single elongated. They are \$5 for six or \$9 a dozen and they are very attractive.



Vance has promised to write us a story about some of his experiences and hopefully, his dad's. Dad Fowler is currently using a rolling machine as he attends swap meets, etc. and travels throughout the states on a fun vacation.

You can contact Vance Fowler at 3447 Centennial Drive, NW, Salem, Oregon 97304.

The fact that Copper Charms and the Cimeter Group are now members leads us to believe there are many other professionals in the field who may be unaware of TEC. If you meet one, why not alert them?

\* \* \*

## VERDUGO HILLS COIN CLUB ELONGATED

The Verdugo Hills Coin Club, California used an elongated cent as an admission ticket. They are available for 50¢ each plus a stamped self-addressed envelope. Write Verdugo Hills Coin Club, Box 26, Tujunga, CA 91042.

\* \* \*



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WAYLON

This coin is in commemoration of Country music great, Waylon Jennings.

MEMPHIS, TENN. HOME OF THE KING

This Coin was used at the Grace Mansion in Memphis, I'm sure everyone knows who the King is.

SHELBYVILLE, TENN. WORLD WALKING HORSE CAPITAL

The 41st Annual Walking Horse Celebration was held this year. We made a coin in commemoration of this event.

These are a few of the elongated coins we now have.

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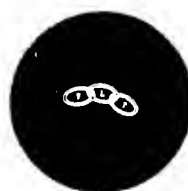
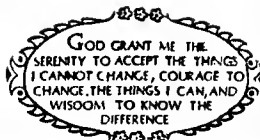
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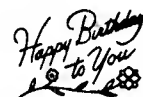
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\*\*\*\*\*



#165-The Yellow Rose of Texas--75¢

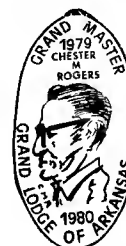


#167-Wishing You A Speedy Recovery--75¢



#169-Hillsborough Military Academy--75¢

#175-Grand Master--75¢



#176-The Year of The Goat (1979)--75¢

#177-275th Anniversary, Greenland, N.H.--75¢

#181-Patmos Lodge #70--75¢

#183-Year of the Monkey (1968 & 1980)--75¢

#184-Zeredathan Chapter No. 35--75¢

#168-Christmas Elongated (1978)--\$1.00

#187-Christmas Elongated (1979)--\$1.00

#188-United Day Dec 18, 1979--\$1.50

Any 10 elongateds for \$5.00 plus \$1.00 postage

